

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

The drawings were received on January 9, 2008. These drawings are accepted.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-16, 18-19, and 21-32 are allowed.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Applicant's remarks filed September 17, 2007 were persuasive as indicated in the office action dated November 28, 2007. The examiner further notes that the applicant amended the claims to overcome the previous 35 USC 112, first paragraph rejection noted in the November 28, 2007 office action.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JASON B. DUNHAM whose telephone number is (571)272-8109. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 8-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeff Smith can be reached on 571-272-6763. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Jeffrey A. Smith/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art
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JBD
Patent Examiner
4/4/08